

RECEIVED  
CITY CLERK  
C & C OF HONOLULU

**From:** Mary Peddie [dacountrygirl@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 12, 2010 5:58 PM  
**To:**  
**Cc:** Dan; officepros@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** OED Written Testimony Re Council Bill 15CD1

2010 APR 13 AM 8:06

Mary Peddie  
Hawaiian Scottish Association  
Director of Operations  
P.O. Box 3982  
Mililani HI 96789

April 12, 2010

The Honorable Chair Nestor Garcia  
And members  
Budget Committee  
City and County of Honolulu  
Honolulu HI 96813

Re: Bill 15CD1

We urge you to maintain the Mayor's Office of Economic Development ("OED") and not enact drastic budget cuts. OED is important to our organization because of the following:

1. Hawaii's ties with the Scottish community dates back to some of the royalty of Hawaii; specifically Princess Kaiulani, who was half-Scottish and half-Hawaiian.
2. The Scottish festival has grown in the last 4 years under the direction of Chieftain/President Dan Peddie. Since taking over, Mr. Peddie informed the Board of his goals:
  - a. To expand the festival slowly, introducing a different event every year and he did with the funds from the OED.
  - b. The funding from the OED represents the visitor industry for the City and County of Honolulu and its monies are used towards the betterment of the festival as a whole.

The following significant events were implemented as a result of the OED funds:

**2007-**He introduced the "Ceilidh" or Welcome Party for the Scottish festival; the event now known as the "Taste of Scotland".

**2008-** He re-introduced the Scottish Highland Dance Competition, after an absence of 20 years from our festival. (Mr. & Mrs. Peddie, expenses paid by the Peddies, traveled to Calgary Canada to recruit dancers to assist in organizing the highland dance competition event). OED funded the festival for the first time in the amount of a \$5,000.00 grant.

MISC. COM. 435

B

**2009** – The adoption of the Hawaii tartan and the Scottish wedding of Ron MacPherson and Carlene Hart was performed by Rev. Robert Walden on the Kapiolani Park Bandstand Stage. OED funded the festival for the second time in the amount of a \$6,000.00 grant.

**2010-** Mr. Peddie, along with Times Fujioka, Better Brands, Southern Wine & Spirits, sponsored the First Annual Grand Scotch Tour 2010; its first fundraiser. With the help of Mark Scalzone from the Mayor's office, we were awarded a \$5,000.00 grant from the OED.

In the past, “word-of-mouth” has been our measure of success. Comments such as “great festival”, “your group did a great job” and “I saw your advertisement in the newspaper.” The Hawaiian Scottish Festival & Highland games is one of the few festivals across the nation that does not charge for admission.

Without the manpower that is needed to survey all attendees, the positive responses from our arts and crafts vendors and the food vendors who continue to “sell out” year after year is a good indication of the success of the festival.

OED provides support/service targeted at the local Oahu community. These needs are not being met by state agencies. Given the economic challenges faced by our community, OED has been able to leverage its modest level of funding with public-private partnerships that have enriched the economic well being of our country. We urge you to maintain the Mayor’s Office of Economic Development.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Sincerely,  
Mary Peddie

--

Mary J.S. Peddie  
Director of Operations  
Hawaiian Scottish Association  
Festival Planning Committee  
E-mail: [dacountrygirl@gmail.com](mailto:dacountrygirl@gmail.com)  
Tel/Fax: (808) 626-3559  
Cell Tel: (808) 387-5993